

## INTRODUCTION

This booklet provides a summary of the abandoned mineral lands (AML) program in the National Park System (NPS). The summary is presented in a question and answer format along with a number of pictures to illustrate the concerns. The reader can simply scan the questions, and read only the answers that are of interest.

Photographs illustrate the extent of AML sites, dramatically show some safety hazards and resource damage, illustrate historical significance and interpretive possibilities, and show some innovative methods of preserving wildlife habitat. Several types of mine closures are shown along with some closures that have been vandalized.